



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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MEXICAN NATIONALS CHARGED WITH FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATIONS

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that two Mexican nationals have been arrested in connection with an attempt to export firearms into Mexico.

The criminal complaint—filed today—charges 51-year-old Jose de Jesus Soto-Quintero and his wife, 43-year-old Maria Guadalupe Moreno de Soto of El Baton Zapopan, Jalisco, Mexico, with the illegal receipt of a firearm. The complaint states that the defendants, who were traveling back to Mexico, were stopped for inspection late yesterday afternoon at the Bridge of Americas Port of Entry in El Paso, Texas. During a search of the defendant's vehicle, authorities discovered six firearms—three shotguns and three rifles—inside a box labeled as containing a weight bench.

Upon conviction, each defendant faces up to five years in federal prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and is being prosecuted for the government by Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg McDonald.

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